

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 233-0696  
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6079**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 4**

**NOTE PREPARED: Jan 30, 2007**

**BILL AMENDED: Jan 30, 2007**

**SUBJECT:** Commission on Forensic Sciences.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Miller

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
X DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill amends the membership of the Commission on Forensic Sciences and provides that the members shall be appointed by July 1, 2007. The bill provides that Commission members shall receive a salary per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses. It requires the Commission to submit a report to the Legislative Council by November 1, 2007, that includes the Commission's findings and recommendations concerning the state's current coroner system, whether a medical examiner system to assist coroners would be an appropriate system for the state, and other alternatives if a medical examiner system is deemed by the Commission to be inappropriate. The bill provides that the law establishing the Commission expires on June 30, 2008.

(The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Interim Study Committee on Criminal Justice Matters.)

**Effective Date:** Upon passage.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill specifies the membership of the Commission on Forensic Science to include five individuals: the Commissioner of the Department of Health, a forensic pathologist, a person engaged in police work with expertise in crime scene investigation, a prosecutor, and a coroner. The Commissioner of the Department of Health serves as the Commission's secretary.

(Revised) The Commission is required to meet at least once in every two-month period. The bill requires the Governor to appoint the members of the Commission by July 1, 2007, and provides for the payment of a salary per diem and travel expenses for the members. Salary per diem for executive boards and commissions is \$50 per day; as of January 1, 2007, mileage reimbursement is \$0.485 per mile. Expense to the Department

of Health would be dependent upon the locations of the four individuals appointed to serve by the Governor, the number of times the Commission would meet, and the amount of time required to staff the Commission and for the preparation of the required report. Expenses for the Department of Health would not be expected to exceed the \$9,500 budgeted for Interim Study Committees of 16 members or less.

The Commission is required to submit a report to the Legislative Council before November 1, 2007, that includes the Commission's findings and recommendations concerning the state's current coroner system, whether a medical examiner system to assist coroners would be an appropriate system for the state, and other alternatives if a medical examiner system is deemed by the Commission to be inappropriate.. The bill provides for the expiration of the Commission on Forensic Sciences on June 30, 2008.

*Appropriation Background:* The Indiana State Department of Health administrative appropriations were made from the dedicated Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement Fund for FY 2006 and FY 2007. Revenues from fees and penalties collected by the Department are deposited in the state General Fund with augmentation allowed in amounts not to exceed the additional revenue from fees or penalties received after July 1, 2003. The funding source of the FY 2008 and FY 2009 ISDH administrative appropriations will be determined by the General Assembly.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Indiana State Department of Health.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Kathy Norris, 317-234-1360.